

“ *Europe*, and particularly that of their dear
 “ Country, his Imperial Majesty did not doubt
 “ but every State of the Empire would readily
 “ acknowledge, that on the preserving intire and
 “ indivisible this Power, depended not only the
 “ Security of *Europe* in general, but also the
 “ Welfare and Safety of the Empire in particu-
 “ lar. His Imperial Majesty says farther, “that
 “ it was not with any View to aggrandize his
 “ Archducal House, that he communicated this
 “ Decree, but merely to preserve to his Heirs
 “ and Descendants, of both Sexes, his Domini-
 “ ons and hereditary Countries undivided, and
 “ that he expected this would meet with the less
 “ Opposition, because this Order of Succession
 “ was founded upon solemn Acts and Settlements
 “ in the illustrious House of *Austria*, already ap-
 “ proved by the Empire, and guaranty’d by
 “ the chief Powers abroad, and by most of the
 “ principal Potentates in the Empire.” His
 Imperial Majesty concludes with observing, “that
 “ this Guaranty, instead of exposing the Em-
 “ pire to any Inconvenience by engaging in its
 “ Defence, would prove the only means of pre-
 “ venting those Disturbances that must other-
 “ wise naturally arise in relation to that Suc-
 “ cession, and in which they would be obliged
 “ to take part whether they would or not.”

I am very sorry that I am obliged to make so
 tedious a Recital to you, of a Thing with which
 you must be so well acquainted; but there pre-
 vails of late so strange a Humour of forgetting
 what ought to be best remembered, denying
 Facts notoriously known, and misrepresenting
 whatever makes against People, that I am oblig’d
 to be more explicit than I otherwise would. I
 cannot help observing to you, that this Decree
 shews